No. 14,051.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1898-SIXTEEN PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

"It is common knowledge in Hawaii that

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS.

A Large Number of Selections Sent to the Senate.

The President today sent these nomina-

Horace H. Thomas of Illinois, to be ap-

praiser merchandise district of Chicago,

Ill.; Edwin Parsons of Maine, to be col-

lector customs district of Kennebunk, Me.

State-Herbert H. D. Peirce of Massachu-

etts, to be secretary, and Edgar O. Achern

of Massachusetts, to be second secretary

B. F. Burwell of Oklahoma, to be asso

To be registers land offices—George W. Fisher of Kansas, at Topeka, Kan.; John B. West of Idaho, at Lewiston, Idaho. Charles A. Schibrede of Oregon, to be a commissioner in and for the district of

Revenue cutter service-First Assistan Engineer E. P. Webber of Maryland, to be

a chief engineer. Second Assistant Engineer J. Q. Watson of New Jersey, to be a first assistant engineer. To be third lieutenants—Wm. G. Blasrel of California; H.

NEEDS OF THE NAVY.

House Committee.

ville, Capt. Crowninshield, chief of the con-

struction bureau; Surgeon General Van

Reypen, Capt. O'Neil, chief of ordnance,

and Paymaster General Stewart were befor

the House committee on raval affairs to

day to explain some estimates they made

for the naval appropriation bid. Nothing

was said about the battle ships or dry

The main point of Secretary Long's hear

ing was a suggestion to raise the age limit

of entrance to the service of the officers of

the medical corps from twenty-one to thirty. This, however, has been already done by the committee. The raising of the

limit will result in a material increase in

he number of officers in that branch of

Chief Engineer Melville called for an in

crease in the engineer corps of the navy

which he said was imperatively needed

He asked that provision be made for sev-

nty-five more assistant engineers. It was

also pointed out that the number of assist

When the hearing was closed the com

tered into a long discussion as to the rela-

tive merits of the respective cities asking

KANSAS LAW EPHELD

Prohibition of Transportation of In-

feeted Cattle Held Valid.

day an opinion was handed down by Jus-

tice Harlan in the case of the Missouri,

Kansas and Texas Railway Company vs

Charles Haber, affirming the constitution

ality and validity of the state laws of

Kansas prohibiting the transportation into

the state of cattle affected with Texas

fever, and providing for a civil action for

damages in case of the infraction of the

The Supreme Court today dismissed the case of Joseph P. Merritt vs. Bowdoin Col-

lege for want of jurisdiction. It involves a

bequest to the college, and today's opinion will have the effect of sustaining its valid-

NAVAL OFFICERS' HEALTH.

Satisfactory Reports Concerning Ad-

miral Sicard and Capt. Sigsbee.

From unofficial information received her

there has been a satisfactory improvemen

in the health of both Admiral Sicard, who is

commanding the north Atlantic squadron

and of Captain Sigsbee, who commande

the Maine before the explosion which

wrecked her. As a result of his stay in

the gulf of Mexico, especially in the vi-

cinity of Dry Tortugas, Admiral Sicard

contracted a case of malaria, which, how-

ever, disappeared after a few days' stay

at Key West. Mrs. Sleard is now at the

fatter place in constant communication with

the admiral, and the latest reports from

recovered his usual good health. Captain Sigsbee's illness was of hardly

more than a day's duration, and yielded promptly to treatment. The latest advices here by his family and by the Secretary of

Oregon Taking on Supplies.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 14.-The

battle ship Oregon is lying in the stream with scow schooners all about her. From

two of the scows coal is being discharged.

Chief Engineer Baird's Recovery.

the State, War and Navy Departm

Chief Engineer Baird, superintendent o

building, who has been confined to his

house with rheumatism for ten days past.

has recovered sufficiently to be able to re-sume his official duties.

Navy, as well, show that he has en-

In the United States Supreme Court to

ant paymasters was deficient by about twenty. An appropriation was asked for.

mittee began the consideration of establishment of new dry docks, and

of the embassy at St. Petersburg, Russia.

ciate justice supreme court, Oklahoma.

ions to the Senate:

mouth, Va.

oocks.

the service.

Two Cruisers Have Been Obtained From Brazil.

FAILURE OF SPANISH EFFORT

Senator Proctor Tells the President of His Cuban Trip.

SECRETARY LONG AT THE CAPITOL

Secretary Alger Wants Money for New Artillery.

RETURN OF THE BROOKLYN

The two Brazilian cruisers, Amazonas and Admiral Breu, have been sold to the United

Senator Proctor had a long interview with Secretary Alger this morning, and subsequently called on the President, to whom he related the result of his trip to Cuba. The cruiser Brooklyn arrived in Hampton

Reads from Venezuela Secretary Long and other naval officials appeared before the House naval affairs

The Senate adopted Mr. Chandler's reso lution authorizing the naval affairs com-

committee and pointed out the most urgent

mittee to send for persons and papers while investigating the Maine disaster. The Senate also adopted a joint resolution authorizing the President to obtain

indemnity from Spain for treatment of August Bolten and Gustave Richelieu. A Spanish fleet sailed today from Cadiz.

Its supposed destination is Cuba.

The reported sale to the United States of the two Brazillan cruisers Amazonas and Abreuall, now receiving their finishing touches in an English shipyard, was confirmed here this afternoon. It is learned also that Spain has not secured the O'Higgins and that Chile will not sell her to has not and cannot purchase ships from either Chile or the Argentine Republic.

A member of the foreign relations committee of the Senate says that it is true that the United States has purchased two Brazilian warships. He also stated that Spain had not and could not purchase ships from Chile or the Argentine.

Senator Proctor called at the War De partment this morning to see Secretary Alger. He was given right of way over a number of persons who were waiting for the Secretary in the reception room, and for nearly half an hour recited to Secretary Alger the events and observations of his Cuban trip.

Secretary Alger called upon the President shortly after the interview with Senator Proctor at the War Department. He was with the President a short time, mentioning some of the things spoken of by Senator Proctor. Secretary Alger's visit was chiefly for the purpose of securing the President's consent to a purchase of ordnance he has in view. The Secretary said that Senator Proctor would call upon the President in the afternoon and tell his

Not From the Court of Inquiry.

Secretary Alger vigorously asserts that Senator Proctor is not the bearer of any kind of a message from the court of inquiry relating to its work. The value of Senator Proctor's information to the administration, he said, is in his knowledge of present conditions on the island. The familiarity of Senator Proctor with

War Department matters causes the belief that he made numerous suggestions to Secretary Alger as to fortifications in the

Brooklyn Reaches Hampton Roads

The big armored crifiser Brooklyn arrived at Fort Monroe this morning directly from La Guayra, Venezueia. She has made a fine run up, and will, it is expected, await at Hampton Roads the arrival of the Minneapolis and Columbia, which ae just fitting out at Philadelphia. This force will form an excelent nucleus for the projected "flying squadron" in case the department de-

She will stop on the way at League Island to pick up a coal lighter, which will be used in supplying the vessels of the squadron with coal. The Leyden goes under command of Lieut. W. G. Hannum, who dered to that place simply to take on some stores for the squadron.

The torpedo boat Foote arrived at Charleston yesterday on her way to Key West to join the flotilla. The Fern sailed sesterday from Sagua for Key West, having, it is presumed, delivered all the stores for the starving reconcentrados, which, so far, have been received from the central reilef committee, New York. The battle ship Iowa came over from Tortugas to Key West yesterday. The Annapolis, gunboat arrived at Curacoa. The training ship Essex has sailed from New York for Ports-

Other Naval Movements.

The gunboat Machias, which has just arrived at Norfolk from the Asiatic sta-

tion by way of the Suez canal, has been found to be in fair shape, as a result of the examination by the naval inspection beard. A thorough overhauling will be unnecessary in the present instance, as she will be sent to Boston, where all necessary

Orders have been issued to the Mare Island navy yard to prepare the Charleston for commission without loss of time, and it is expected this ship will be in service again by the first week in April, or some days ahead of the Philadelphia. Both vessels will be retained near San Francisco, and with the two monitors Montecey and Monadnock will defend that city against war vessels that might be sent

Authorities have been advised that repairs to the monitor Puritan are practically completed, and she will drop down to Hampton Roads in a day or two to await developments. The cruiser Brooklyn will join her at that point, and these ships will soon be reinforced by the cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis.

The monitor Mantonomoh will be retained at the mouth of the Delaware to guard the city of Philadelphia, and the ram Katahdin, it is expected, will be ordered either to New York or to Key West, with the chances in favor of her reinforcing the Terror for protection of the port of New

To Give Up the European Station.

It has been decided to abandon the European station for the present to meet the exigencies of the situation. Orders have been sent to Commodore Howell, commanding the fleet, to send the gunboats Helena and Barcroft to the United States with all spead and to prepare to return himself or the flagship San Francisco on short notice. These three vessels comprise the entire European fleet. They have been at Lisbon, Portugal, for several weeks awaiting orders.

The Helena was originally intended for the Asiatic station, and was proceeding thither by the Mediterranean route when directed to remain at Lisbon until further orders. The Bancroft was built as a practice vessel for the Naval Academy cadets, but was sent to Turkish waters during the critical period of the Armenian troubles, when so many American citizens were being ill-treated in the sultan's possessions, and has been retained on the station ever

The Helena has a displacement of only 1,392 tons and that of the Bancroft is only 839 tons. The San Francisco is a protected cruiser of 4,008 tons, and is a very good vessel of her class, although in need of a rapid-firing battery.

It is expected that the Helena will arrive at Hampton Roads and the Bancroft at Key West within two weeks' time. They will be attached to Admiral Sicard's formidable fleet, and in the event of trouble will be used in blockading Cuban ports. The abandonment of the European station is due to the desire of the department to remove from a possible sphere of danger three ships which might there fall an easy prey to Spanish battle ships or armored cruisers, and which could render much more effective service on this side of the Atlantic.

Disappearing Gun Carriages.

The ordnance department of the army has sent an invitation to all of the firms which have in the past proposed to build disappearing gun carriages, in answer to the department's advertisement, to now comforward and submit on their own behalf proposals for building such carriages. They are invited to state how many carriages they can undertake at one time, and are especially enjoined to state the exact time to be consumed in making them.

The ordnance officers have discovered to their great gratification that it is possible to use the carriages of the old fifteen-inch Rodman guns to mount the eight and teninch guns of modern manufacture. This is because the Rodman carriages were fortunately of particularly heavy construction for the guns they were designed to carry, so that with even the vastly increased power of modern ordnance the fifteen-inch Rodman carriage is still able to carry safely an eight or ten-inch breech-loading rifle. Of course, the expedient is only a temporary one, as the carriages are very slow in operation, according to modern standards, but they would serve very well in an emergency.

Clothing the Naval Militia.

Representative Elliott of South Carolina called at the Navy Department this morning to talk with the officials respecting the clothing of the naval militia. Representative Elliott is endeavoring to secure the department's aid in having the section of the naval bill providing for clothing go into effect immediately upon the passage of the bill, in which case a considerable bedy of the South Carolina militia can be put into active service at once. The department is thoroughly committed to the

Conditions appear to be quieter on the surface at the Navy Department today. Probably this was because Secretary Long, Captain Crowninshield, chief of the navigation bureau; Engineer-in-Chief Melville. and other leading bureau officers of the department were called to the Capitol during the forenoon to inform the appropriations committee of the needs of the naval service in the matter of legislation. In the various bureaus there was a hum of industry, however, and the work progressed as incessantly and steadily as it has for the past

Men for the Brazilian Ships

The recruiting service of the Navy Department is naturally one of the biggest branches of the service just now. It is in the temporary command of Captain Hemphill during the absence in the south of Captain Hawley. He was busy this morning with representatives of the various railroads engaged in arranging for terms for transportation of recruits to the seaboard and of sailors already in the service from one port to another made necessary by the commissioning of new ships. A problem that confronts his office is to procure the necessary force of enlisted men for manning the two ships which have been purchased from Brazil, the Amazonas and the Admiral Breu. It will probably require about 250 men for each ship, and the question is whether these men shall be hired abroad in England, under special arrangements for the one trip, or whether their regular crews shall be sent out from the United States to bring them home. The first method is undoubtedly the quicker, but it will not be available in case there should be an open rupture before the com-

To Fortify the Tortugus. It is understood that Secretary Alger and Secretary Long have reached an understanding as to the Tortugas. This under standing is that the island shall be fortified and used as a base of operations by the

pletion of the two ships.

navy so long as there are vessels in the vi-(Continued on Second Page.)

BIG NAVAL DISPLAY

Spain's Warships Present an Impresrepairs can be made to her in about twelve sive Picture to the Cubans.

MONTGOMERY IS OVERSHADOWED

Sharp Lookout Maintained to Guard Against Another Disaster.

DESTINATION OF THE FLEET

(Copyright, 1898, by Charles M. Pepper.) Special From a Staff Correspondent.

HAVANA, March 12, via Port Tampa, Fla., March 13.-Havana harbor these days is full of life and color. The Almirante Oquendo and the Vizcaya, with their black hulls, make a fine showing. To my inexperienced eye, they seem a little too broad and squatty, and therefore likely to offer a good mark for an enemy's guns. I have heard some naval officers say that in the deplorable event of war, it might not be difficult to drop shells into the boilers of these sister warships. That may be a matter for future demonstration. Externally, they look formidable enough, and the Ha vana people who admire them are not to be blamed if they show a feeling of pride over Spain's naval power.

The graceful lines of the Montgomery compare favorably with the harsher appearance of the Oquendo and the Vizcaya. Her anchorage is quite close to the Vizcaya. It has been observed that an explosive which had power enough to destroy on vessel would probably leave nothing but wreckage of the other. The Montgomery is painted white. The Vizcaya forms a dark background, which brings in relief the American cruiser. The officers of the Mont gomery are proud of their ship. They tell of her "going" quality and speculate on her probable record in case of a naval combat. The praise which the vessel receives because of her looks is not unwelcome to them. Yet one evening in the mess room, when an officer of the Montgomery gave his opinion that what was needed in this harfor now was something as big, as ugly and forbidding as the Puritan, there was no dis-

An Object Lesson Needed. The object lesson which gives something

like a correct idea of American naval strength is still a necessity.

A small craft which has been moved about the harbor several times before findng an anchorage excites much curiosity, though it does not draw the attention that the big ships receive. This little craft flies the Spanish flag. It is painted red, so there is red, white and black forming the picture of war on the water. The small vessel has a 6-inch gun mounted forward. It came mysteriously into the harbor one nightwhence no one seemed to know. The story as that the red craft had been in the navy yard undergoing repairs, and lately had been engaged in coast patrol duty to prevent filibustering, but all the vessels which were in the navy yard are there now, and credence is given to the report that the new arrival is a torpedo chaser, the first of the torpedo flotilla which is to be sent out by Spain.

I also heard it described as a small ram. The designation is not important. The chief thing is that its presence adds to the activity in the harbor, which seems to promise greater activity in the near

The presence of the Austrian training ship Donau is also to be noted. The Spanish officials will not be satisfied with the showing of their country's prowess until the Pelayo and others of that type are here. They have moved the Alfonso XII pretty well down the bay. That vessel had been in the harbor so long that it had ceased to be a symbol which appealed to the imagination. Moreover, the populace had come to know the crippled con dition of the Alfonso and to understand that she could not hobble out to sea without a tug for a crutch. The boilers have been repaired finally, and the Alfonso

might now get out under her own steam. Preparing for Active Duty.

Around the bend in the navy yard the ships which have been lying there for months show signs of preparation for active duty, but none of them is of much strength. It is upon the vessels which have come from Spain and which are to come that the minds of the officials are fixed. With these they expect not merely to defend the ports of Cuba, but to attack the ports on the Atlantic seaboard.

Before long they look for Spanish colors to be flying from a dozen men-of-war in the harbor and for the stars and stripes to come down from the mast which rises from the wreck of the Maine. While everybody is waiting the waters of Havana are carefully policed and picketed.

The officers and crew of the Montgomery may have been a trifle nervous the first night. Perhaps they lost some sleep. It will never be said that the discipline is lax or that either accident or design could cause harm to the Montgomery, through lack of watchfulness. The Spanish ships are guarded with equal care. They can not be approached closely enough for either a torpedo or a floating electric mine to be exploded where it would do harm. A hypothetical fear is entertained that some fanatical Cuban might attempt something of this sort. The narrow entrance to the harbor is also guarded, so that no hostile torpedo boat could run in under cover of the darkness. The exchange of official courtesies goes on with more or less semblance of cordiality, but tension is not

Feeling Against Americans. The loyalists say that powder wasted in firing salutes had better be used in firing shells. Formerly they would have said it could be put to better advantage by using it

against the insurgents. Their temper is changed, and the insurgents are forgotten in their resentment against the Yankees. The sight of the warships helps the popular subscription for the rehabilitation of the Spanish navy. It had been lagging. The contributions from this source might amount to enough to keep the ships painted. As a practical measure it could be worth no more. But in fostering the spirit of Span ish patriotism the effect is important.

The navy is said to be better taken care of than the army. Instead of nine months' arrears of pay, which is the case with the roops, the officers and crews of the warships are said to be only three or four months late in receiving their dues. They haven't worn out their clothes as the sol diers have.

The Oquendo and the Vizcaya haven't

coaled since they came into the harbor. How far they could go to sea is a problem. The officers enjoy the several entertain-

nents given them, yet they do not seem unmindful of other things. The understandmuch cruising will be done by these boats. Nominally they will be on the lookout to prevent fillbustering expeditions from iand-

ng close to Havana.

Squadron Might Be Trapped. Vizcaya and the Oquendo are reinforced by the Pelayo and other big ships, the whole squadron should be shut up in the basin. The entrance to the harbor is narrow. A strong arm can almost throw stone across to Morro Castle from the fort of the Prado. If they were going out en a sudden call to meet a foe, they would have to proceed in single file. No good anchorage exists outside the harbor, and he big vessels cannot be cruising around

aimlessly. Before the cruisers and the battle ships start on their voyage on the Atlantic seatoard the torpedo boats may be useful in making sure that there is an open passage out to sea. All these matters are discussed here as though peaceful intervention by the United States were not possible. If vields to mediation, these naval matters are of little account. All that will remain will be a passing impression of the ricture presented in Havana harbor when a naval combat was thought to be probable. CHAS. M. PEPPER.

CEBALOS' AUTHORITY

Not Empowered to Represent the Spanish Government.

Named by the Cuban Autonomou Cabinet-Coming of Torpedo Boats -Findings on Maine Disaster.

The Spanish minister, Sener Polo y Bernabe, received a number of dispatches today from the minister of state at Madrid and from Captain General Blanco. Those from Gen. Blanco were reassuring in tone, and stated that the situation at Havana and throughout the island was quiet and satisfactory. The minister of state cabled in substance: "The uprising in the Philippines is so insignificant that it will be ended by the time you receive this." This is a source of satisfaction to the legation officient of the petitioners are minors. There is strong reason to believe that a much larger number of the petitioners are minors. cials, as the trouble in the Philippines has been intermittent during the last two years, and has distracted attention from Cuba.

Senor Polo did not have occasion to visit the State Department today. At 11 o'clock he made his first formal call, by appoint-ment, on the French ambassador, and at 12 o'clock on the British ambassador. Infor-

terms of settlement with the Cuban insur-"Senor Cebalos is not a commissioner of Spain," said the minister, "nor has he any authority, directly or indirectly, to speak for the Spanish government.

erson qualified to speak for Spain in the United States is her accredited minister. 1 vish to make the denial as broad and emphatic as possible." It was explained by the minister that Senor Cebalos had recently been named by the autonomous cabinet of Cuba as an aid to him in framing the proposed commercia reaty between the United States and Cu ba. This was in accordance with the au-tonomous plan by which the Cubans them ceives were given control of their tariff af But in naming Senor Cebalos, th

minister pointed out, he and his associates were to assist him as the plenipotentlary In any event, however, Mr. Cebalos' mis sion was confined wholly to commercial mairs. Even in this capacity the minister expresses doubt whether Senor Cebalos will be able to act, as he lives in New York and is a citizen of the United States, which and is a citizen of the United States, which apparently incapacitates him from being a direct representative of the Cubans. Whether Mr. Cebalos, on his personal re-sponsibility, made overtures here is not known at the legation. He did not call here, and it is said that anything he may have done was without that consultation or sanction which would give it the slight est status as the act of the Spanish gov

Coming of Spanish Torpedo Boats Senor Polo's attention was called to the eports from Spain as to the prospective sailing of the Spanish torpedo fleet for Havana, and to the significance which had been attached in this country to this movement. The minister said that the move ment of torpedo craft had long been con-templated, and even before he left Madrid the queen regent bade good-bye to the cap-tain of the fleet. Their coming had no re-lation whatever, he said, to recent condiions, as they were wanted for work along the Cuban coast. Some of them were de signed for use in the Ceuto river, while others, being swift, would be used as the being swift, would be used as the lispatch boats between shore points in

Probable Spanish Findings.

The minister has received no intimation as to the findings of the Spanish naval commission which is investigating the Maine disaster. He says this commission is proceeding with the same formality and secrecy as the United States court of inquiry, and that no intimation of its findngs will be justified until the formal report s presented to the Spanish government Mr. Polo expresses his personal belief, however, that there is no doubt the Spanish commission will report that the Maine exconvinced that this also will be the con

The reports published this morning of an alleged visit of Senor Cabalor to the President and his offer of a new plan to settle the Cuba question are not been out by any information. Nobody there knows anything of Senor Cebalos paying the President a visit. Even if he had, no significance could have been attached to it. He was not introduced at the White House through any request of the Senies legacion. request of the Spanish legation. The alleged proposition of State Cabalos is that Spain will consent to the independence of

SENOR GANA GOES TO LONDON.

Chilean Minister Here Transferred to Court of St. James. LONDON, March 14.-Senor Domingo Gana, the Chilean minister at Washington, has been appointed minister plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James.

Vessels at Key West. KEY WEST, Fla., March 14.-The Amer can yacht Buccaneer arrived here this morning from Havans, and the United States coast survey vessel Bache saile this morning for Havana. The newspape dispatch boats Dewey, Echo and Confidence arrived here from Havana and shortly at terward returned to that port.

THE NATIVE PETITION

ing is that when the torpedo fiotilla arrives An Analysis of That From the Hawaiian Patriotic League.

It would be inconvenient if, after the FACTS SHOWING ITS INACCURACY

Duplication of Signatures and Many in the Same Handwriting.

WHAT MR. THURSTON SAYS

were requested to sign it simply to show that there was no hard feeling in the matter. Subscription papers were also passed around to raise money to send the royalist delegation now in Washington, and leading amexationists asked to subscribe thereto.

"As an example of the irresponsible signing of petitions, which have come to my personal knowledge; I was a member of the Hawalian Jegislature in 1886, and noticing a native member sitting at my side, writing at the top of a document which contained a number of signatures, I asked him what he was doing. He replied that he was preparing a petition in support of a bill which he had introduced.

"I said: 'Why, you don't mean to say that you get your petition signed first, and write in the heading afterward, do you?"

"'Why, certainly I do,' he replied. 'It's too much bother to send clear to my district to get a petition, so I had a lot of blank sheets signed up in advance, and every time I want a petition to back up one of my measures I fill in a heading on one of these sheets.' He thereupon pulled open the drawer of his desk and showed me some twenty or thirty sheets, all signed in blank, with a space at the top in which to insert the object of the petition.

"Another member of the Hawaiian legislature once made a wager that within a given time he could secure a hundred signition." A few weeks ago a royalist commission from Hawaii appeared in Washington for the announced purpose of opposing annexation. The sheet anchor of their opposition was a "gigantic petition" from the "Hawaiian Patriotic League," whose president, James K. Kaulia, the head of the commission, personally brought the petition to that is a mistaken guess and Spain tinally Washington and delivered it to the Senate, the united commission certifying to the bona fides of the document.

The opponents of annexation have waxed eloquent over this "protest of a united people," and made it the foundation rock of

The petition was referred to the Senate foreign relations committee.

Senator Davis, the chairman, has heard of petitions before, however, and decided not to take what was claimed for it on faith. Although it is difficult to ascertain the genuineness of the document originating 5,000 miles away, he decided to have the petition analyzed, to see if on its face it gave evidence of good or bad faith.

The following is the result of this analysis, which discloses such overwhelming evidence of fraud, perjury, forgery and deceit as, in the opinion of the investigator, to utterly destroy the value of the petition.

The Analysis of the Petition. foreign relations committee.

The Analysis of the Petition. The petition consists of 556 pages, of which 308 pages contain what purport to be male signatures and 248 pages female signatures. The number of male signatures purports to be 10,378; female, 10,891, making the total number of signatures 21,269. The petition contains a column in which opposite each name the age of each petitioner purports to be written, and it appears that 4,338 of the number are minors. It thus appears, even from the face of

Reasons for Discrediting the Petition

ing the male petition states that the min-ors are all between fourteen and twenty years of age. are 350 male petitioners and 327 female pe-

o'clock on the British ambassador. Informal social exchanges had previously been made, but the calls today were in the nature of the formal meetings of the representatives of the various governments.

The minister asked that an emphatic denial be made in his name to the reports that Senor Juan Cebalos had been in Washington as a commissioner from the Spanish government to make overtures for the fact that several hundred fraudulent changes in the ages of petitioners is apparent on the face of the petitions.

tion.
The ages of fifty-three of the male petitioners and 228 of the female petitioners making 278 in all, have been fraudulently changed from a lower to a higher figure The object of these changes is manifestly to try and make the face of the petition comply with the statement contained therein that the minors are over fourteen; and, second, to give an appearance of greater responsibility and weight to the petition than it would have if so many young children appeared to be signers.

Each and every page of the male petition rsigned with the original Enoch Johnson, secretary, and Enoch Johnson of the "Ha countersigned James K. Kaulia, president of the waiian Patriotic League," and each page of female petition is countersigned with he original signatures of Mrs. Lilia Aholo secretary, and Mrs. K. Campb "Women's Hawaiian Patriotic

of the frauds and forgeries enumerated above, and yet they have certified to the prrectness and genuineness of each individual page, and have even taken oath before notary public certifying thereto, and se ured the certificate of the United States consul as to the official standing of otary inconsistent with Johnson's and Caulia's certificates of genuineness of pe

follows: 1. The petition certifies that the minor petitioners are between fourteen and twen-

The male petition shows on its face that out of a total of 306 pages, 105 pages, or more than one-third, contain the names of 350 minors, ranging from two to thirteer

petition, the ages of fifty-three petitioners who are under fourteen have been fraudulently changed to fourteen or upwar persons have signed 303 signatures, as high as forty-six signatures on one page being in the same handwriting (page 164, male petition).

in round numbers only.
5. The signatures of the boys, two and

above specified is countersigned by Johnson and Kaulia.

1. The female petition shows on its face that 327 of the minors are under fourteen

female petition that minors are over four-teen, but the common management of the two petitions is evidenced by the fact that under fourteen, have been fraudulently changed to fourteen or upward. 3. On forty-two pages forty-three persons have signed 1,104 names; as high as 126

have signed 1,104 names; as high as 124 signatures in one care and 178 in another being all in the same handwriting; and in one instance sixteen female names (page 8) and in another thirty-one (page 240) are in the handwritings of well-known men.

4. In a great number of instances the ages are all in the same handwriting, and in round numbers.

What Mr. Thurston Had to Say. Mr. Lorrin A. Thurston was seen by a representative of The Star and asked what he knew, if anything, in regard to the pe-

tition. He said he did not care to discuss this particular petition, but said:

"It is common knowledge in Hawaii that even to a greater degree than in this country there is little feeling of responsibility attached to signing a petition. Among the native Hawaiians especially the feeling is that it is rather an honor to see one's name attached to' a petition, and that it would be unfriendly to refuse to sign a petition, an act which costs nothing. For example, the petition in quesion was, I am credibly informed, taken to many prominent supporters of annexation, and they were requested to sign it simply to show that there was no hard feeling in the matter. Subscription papers were also passed

their opposition.

Another member of the Hawaiian legis-lature once made a wager that within a given time he could secure a hundred sig-natures to a petition praying the legisla-ture to make an appropriation to move one of the islands so that it would be nearer to headquarters and easier to get at. He got the signatures within the time named.'

The certificate or summary accompany-

The petition shows on its face that there

The signatures of over 1,400, or nearly 10 per cent of the adult petitioners, are not original, but forgeries.

League." These four people are all intelligent ohnson and Kaulia are members of the ar of the supreme court of Hawaii. Kau lia is now chairman of the royalist delegaion in Washington, and personally brought the petition from Honolulu

There is no possibility that the officers of the organizations named did not know

A summary of the facts, which appear upon the face of the male petition, inconsistent with its genuineness and bona fides which must have been known to Kaulia and Johnson when they certified it, are a

y years of age.

vears of age. 2. That on thirty-one pages of the male

4. In a great number of instances the ages are all in the same handwriting and three years of age, are in good, round handwriting. This may be claimed as evi-dence of the advanced educational system

Each and every one of the 154 pages years of age.

2. There is no separate certificate on the

in round numbers.

5. The signatures of the two and three-year-old girls are in good, round hand-writing, impossible to be genuine.

Each and every one of the 115 pages specified above is countersigned by Mrs.

Aholo and Mrs. Campbell.

from another powder is being hoisted on card the warship and from a fourth shells for the big guns. The ultimate destination of the Oregon is presumably the Atlantic coast. She is taking in one hundred tons of coal, which, it is figured, will carry her to Callao, as already stated. She will await orders at Valparaiso.

tirely recovered.

read any other paper.

GOT AHEAD OF SPAIN

If you want to buy, sell

or exchange anything. lease property or rent rooms, want a situation or

want help, it will pay you

to announce the fact in the advertising columns of The Star. They are closely

studied by more than three times as many people as

United States Secures Two of Brazil's New Warships.

THE AMAZONAS AND ADMIRAL BREU

Spain Reported to Have Bought the O'Higgins From Chile.

FLEET SAILS FROM CADIZ

LONDON, March 14.-The Brazilian min ister confirms the report that the warships Amazonas and Abreuall have been sold to the United States government. contract is to be signed today, and the Brazilian officers and crew now on board the Amazonas will return to Brazil by the next mail steamer sailing for that country. The Press Association says Spain has purchased the battle ship O'Higgins, built

by the Armstrongs for Chile, but the Chilean charge d'affaires does not confirm the report. He says a Chilean crew for the vessel is expected here next week to take the O'Higgins to Chile. Spanish Squadron Sails. A special dispatch from Cadiz, Spain, an-

nounces that the Spanish squadron has sailed from that port. It is understood the Spanish warships are going to Porto Rico, where they will await the orders of Capt. Gen. Blanco. The special adds that enthusiastic crowds

The special adds that enthusiastic crowds of people gathered there to bid farewell to the Spanish war vessels.

In the house of commons today the parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, Mr. Curzon, replying to Michael Davitt, anti-Parnellite, who asked the government whether Great Britain had offered to lend men-of-war to the United States in the great of a conflict between the United

event of a conflict between the United States and a European power, said the government had not made such an offer. In answer to a series of questions which Mr. Davitt put with the view of elicting Mr. Davitt put with the view of endstage whether there have been any negotiations for an alliance between Great Britain and the United States, or whether Great Britain had offered to mediate in the Cuban crisis, Mr. Curzon said these questions were of such a nature that it was inexpedient to seek to them. reply to them

Helena and Bancroft Sail. LISBON, March 14.-The United States war vessels Helena and Bancroft sailed today, going in a southwesterly direction.

The departure of the United States war-ships Helena and Bancroft in a southwest-erly direction, from Lisbon, may possibly connected with the seemingly simul-taneous departure of the Spanish squadron from Cadiz, which is situated on the south-G. Fisher and Henry Ulke, jr., of District of Columbia, J. V. Wild of Virginia and W. A. Wiley of Ohio, and a number of postmasters, including W. T. Knight, at Richmond and S. L. Burroughs, at Portsmouth, Va. western coast of Spain. Rumors have had it that the Bancroft and Helena might follow the Spanish ships across the Atlantic.

DISTRIBUTING MINOR COINS.

Secretary Long and Others Before a Circular Order Issued by the United States Treasurer. Secretary Long and Chief Engineer Mel-The United States treasurer has the following circular in regard to the dis

tribution of minor coins: "Five-cent nickel and one-cent bronze pleces will be furnished in the order of application from the United States mint at Philadelphia, Pa., to points reached by the United States and connecting express companies, free of transportation charges, in sums of \$20, or multiples thereof, except New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans and San Francisco, upon receipt of lawful New York or Philadelphia may do so, but the superintendent of the mint assum liability in the collection of such d and no shipment will be made until the pro-ceeds of such remittance have been received in lawful money at the mint. To points not reached by express companies, delivery under contract with the government being im-practicable, these coins will be sent by

registered mail at applicant's risk, registry e to be paid by the government.
"A supply of these coins will be kept on hand by the assistant treasurers of the Unit ed States at New York, Boston, Baltimore Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis New Orleans and San Francisco and appli

cation for them should be made to the sub-SENATOR PROCTOR'S MISSION.

He Pursued a Line of Inquiry for Secretary Alger.

It is asserted today on authority that ought not to be subject to question that Senator Proctor fulfilled a mission for Secretary of War Alger during his visit to Cuba. Senator Proctor was himself Secretary of War during Mr. Harrison's term. and is necessarily thoroughly familiar with the War Department matters. He would probably know as well the line of inquiry in Cuba the department would be interested in as would the present Secretary him

self. Senator Proctor arrived in Washington last night. He was very careful not to say anything that might affect the Cuban situation. He disavowed any sort of official krowledge on the Cuban question or on the subject of the Maine disaster. He said he thought the Maine had been destroyed by an external explosion. The condition of the inhabitants of Cuba, he said, was terrible. From estimates of Spanish officials, he said he judged that about 200,000 reconcentradoes had died since the Weyler order went into effect, and as many more were now in need of immediate relief. The im-provement durit Blanco's regime, he said, had been but little. If let alone, the pres-ent form of hostilities in Cuba would con-tinue indefinitely, the condition of the island growing steadily worse. The settlement of the question must come from the outside of the island. He spoke of Blanco as a kind-hearted official, who did the best he could under difficult circumstances, and said that the result of his efforts to ameliorate the endition of the people was but slight. Mr. Proctor denied that he had an official mission, and said that the purpose of his

visit was for personal observation. COL. ELDERKIN RETIRED.

Promotions Caused in the Commissary

Col. William A. Eiderkin, assistant commissary general of subsistence, stationed at Chicago, was placed on the retired list today on account of physical disability. His retirement will promote Lieut. Col. C B. Eagan to be colonel, Maj. J. J. Clague to be lieutenant colonel and Capt. A. L.

Smith to be major.

The President today appointed First Lieutenant A. D. Niskern of the 2d Infantry, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to be an assistant commissary of subsistence with the rank of captain, thus filling the only existing vacancy in that department.

A libel was today filed in the District ccurt by George Love against the schooner

"Briny." It i

cides to form one. The tug Leyden, a fine steel boat, has been ordered from Newport to Key West.

was detached from the New York navy yard for that purpose, and it is expected she will remain at Key West as long as Admiral Sicard desires to make use of her. Cablegrams received at the Navy Department this morning announce that the Bancroft sailed yesterday from Lisbon for Norfolk and the Helena from Lisbon for Key West, to join the squadron. This leaves Admiral Howell at Lisbon with his flagship San Francisco as the sole representative of the United States navy in European waters. It is now stated at the Navy Department that the Marblehead, which arrived at Tampa Saturday night, was or-